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Message Text

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64
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01

ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 L-03

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R 132105Z MAY 74
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4049
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GENEVA PASS STOTTLEMYER

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: AORG, UN, EGEN
SUBJ: CONTRIBUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS ABOLITION
OF PER CAPITA CEILING PRINCIPLE

1. UN COMITE ON CONTRIBUTIONS COMPLETED ITS ANNUAL
SESSION MAY 13 BY ADOPTING REPORT TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY
WHICH UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDED ABOLITION OF THE PER
CAPITAL CEILING PRINCIPLE BEGINNING WITH UN'S 1977-1979
TRIENNIAL ASSESSMENT SCALE. (PRINCIPLE PROVIDES THAT
PER CAPITA CONTRIBUTION OF ANY MEMBER SHOULD NOT EXCEED
PER CAPITA CONTRIBUTION OF MEMBER WITH HIGHEST ASSESSMENT).
COMITE BASED THIS RECOMMENDATION ON FINDING THAT SIGNIFICANT
CHANGES IN NATIONAL ECONOMIES AND REDUCTION OF MAXIMUM
CONTRIBUTION TO 25 PERCENT WOULD OTHERWISE INCREASE
NUMBER OF RELATIVELY WEALTHY COUNTRIES BENEFITING FROM
PER CAPITA CEILING PRINCIPLE AND THEREBY RAISE ASSESSMENTS
OF MEDIAN OR LOW PER CAPITA INCOME GROUPS.

2. COMITE ALSO DISCUSSED EXCEPTIONAL CHANGES IN NATIONAL
ECONOMIES (EUPHEMISM FOR LEAP OF INCOME OF OIL PRODUCERS)
AND CONSIDERED UNDER RULE 160 OF GA RULES OF PROCEDURE
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WHETHER TO RECOMMEND DEPARTURE FROM CURRENT 1974-76

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TRIENNIAL SCALE IN FAVOR OF TWO-YEAR ASSESSMENT SCALE BEGINNING IN 1976. AFTER MUCH DELIBERATION COMITE DECIDED AGAINST RECOMMENDING CHANGE TO TWO-YEAR SCALE. COMITE WAS INFLUENCED GREATLY BY ANNOUNCED DETERMINATION OF CHINESE TO ASSUME 7 PERCENT ASSESSMENT RATE (PRESENTLY 5.50 PERCENT) NO EARLIER THAN 1977. COMITE HOWEVER WARNED TO STEEP INCREASES IN RATES OF ASSESSMENT IN NEXT TRIENNIAL SCALE.

3. IN OTHER ACTION, COMITE RECOMMENDED ASSESSMENT RATES OF 0.02 PERCENT FOR GUINEA-BISSAU IN RE ITS PARTICIPATION IN UNCTAD AND SUGGESTED SAME RATE FOR GUINEA-BISSAU, NAURU, TOGGA AND WESTERN SAMOA SHOULD THEY WISH TO ATTEND AND CONTRIBUTE TO EXPENSES OF THRID UN CONFERENCE IN LAW OF THE SEA.

4. IN LIGHT OF SERIOUS UN FINANCIAL SITUATION, COMITE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT MEMBERS WOULD PAY CONTRIBUTIONS "AS SOON AS POSSIBLE."

5. COMITE DECIDED NEXT SESSION WLD BEGIN MAY 6, 1975. AT THIS SESSION COMITE INTENDS TO EXAMINE NATURE OF MATERIAL AND ADVICE IT PROVIDES TO SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AS WELL AS TO CONSIDER FURTHER RELATION OF PRICE LEVELS TO EXCHANGE RATES.
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